

*In the Specification:*

Please replace the second paragraph on page 10 with the following:

Configuration engine 210 receives the customer's input from UI 205, and is further coupled to inventory library 230 and to supplier system 220. Inventory library 230 provides configuration engine 210 with a library or catalog of selectable features that correspond to a particular configurable product. The inventory library 230 may also contain the constraints associated with each selectable feature. This library of selectable features can be presented to UI 205 via configuration engine 210. Thus, the customer 201 can have access to all the selectable features of the desired product.

Please replace the second paragraph on page 11 with the following:

In one embodiment, UI 205 (e.g., running as an application on a customer's 201 computer), configuration engine 210 and supplier system 220 are all remotely located with respect to each other. The coupling between such remote blocks is provided by a conventional on-line connection (e.g., an integrated services digital network line, a digital subscriber line, a T1 line, a cable line, or other known on-line connection-types. In an alternative embodiment, configuration engine 210 can be locally located with respect to UI 205, or with respect to supplier system 220. Likewise, UI 205 can be local to supplier system 220, and remote to configuration engine 210. The coupling between the local blocks can be provided by a conventional hardwire connection, or alternatively, by a conventional wireless connection. Inventory library 230 is typically local to configuration engine 210, and the coupling between the two is conventional. However, inventory library 230 may also be remote from configuration engine 210. Those skilled in the art will recognize various other configurations that may arise depending on the nature of the business involved and the relationship between the parties involved (e.g., consumer, retailer, wholesaler, manufacturer, distributor, or vendor to manufacturer).